

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : MATTHIAS RATH

Art Unit : 1648

Serial No.: 09/881,876

Examiner : Stucker, Jeffrey J.

Filing Date: June 15, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

S I R:

Applicant respectfully submits herewith an Amendment. No extra claim fee is believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required due fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. Allowance of all pending claims is hereby respectfully requested.

Please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.